

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 1, 8, 18, 22, 29, and 39, as set forth below.

1           1.       (Currently Amended) A method of determining a metric for evaluating  
2 module schedules for a carousel, the method comprising:  
3 determining an interval difference for an instance of a module on a carousel;  
4 applying a function to the interval difference to determine a result for the instance; and  
5 adding the result for the instance to a sum, the sum corresponding to the metric.

1           2.       (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2 determining an interval difference for each remaining instance of the module;  
3 applying the function to the interval difference for each remaining instance to determine a  
4 result for each remaining instance; and  
5 adding the result for each remaining instance to the sum.

1           3.       (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:  
2 determining an interval difference for each instance of each remaining module on the  
3 carousel;  
4 applying the function to the interval difference for each instance of each remaining  
5 module to determine a result for each instance of each remaining module; and  
6 adding the result for each instance of each remaining module to the sum.

1           4.       (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2       adding a penalty term to the sum in response to an actual interval of the instance equaling  
3           one; and  
4       adding a penalty term to the sum in response to an actual interval of the instance equaling  
5           negative one.

1           5.       (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining an  
2       absolute value of the interval difference to determine the result for the instance.

1           6.       (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a  
2       square of the interval difference to determine the result for the instance.

1           7.       (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2       determining a square of the interval difference;  
3       adding one to the square of the interval difference to determine a number; and  
4       determining a Logarithmic of the number to determine the result for the instance.

1           8.       (Currently Amended) A method of determining a metric for evaluating  
2 module schedules for a carousel, the method comprising:  
3     setting a sum variable to zero, the sum corresponding to the metric;  
4     selecting a module of a carousel;  
5     selecting an instance of the selected module;  
6     determining an interval difference of the selected instance;  
7     applying a function to the interval difference of the selected instance to determine a result  
8           for the selected instance; and  
9     adding the result for the selected instance to the sum.

1           9.       (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising:  
2     selecting a second instance of the selected module;  
3     determining an interval difference of the second instance;  
4     applying the function to the interval difference of the second instance to determine a  
5           result for the second instance; and  
6     adding the result for the second instance to the sum.

1           10.    (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising:  
2    selecting a second module of the carousel;  
3    selecting an instance of the second module;  
4    determining an interval difference of the selected instance of the second module;  
5    applying the function to the interval difference of the selected instance to determine a  
6           result for the selected instance of the second module; and  
7    adding the result for the selected instance of the second module to the sum.

1           11.    (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising:  
2    adding a penalty term to the sum when an actual interval of the selected instance equals  
3           one; and  
4    adding a penalty term to the sum when an actual interval of the selected instance equals  
5           negative one.

1           12.    (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising determining an  
2    absolute value of the interval difference to determine the result for the selected instance.

1           13.    (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising determining a  
2    square of the interval difference to determine the result for the selected instance.

1           14.     (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising:  
2     determining a square of the interval difference;  
3     adding one to the square of the interval difference to determine a number; and  
4     determining a Logarithmic of the number to determine the result for the selected instance.

1           15.     (Original) A method comprising:  
2     providing a plurality of modules, at least one module of the plurality of modules having  
3           at least two instances;  
4     generating a first module schedule for the plurality of modules;  
5     determining a first goodness metric for the first module schedule;  
6     generating at least a second module schedule for the plurality of modules;  
7     determining a second goodness metric for the second module schedule;  
8     selecting one of the first module schedule and the second module schedule in response to  
9           the first and second goodness metrics; and  
10    encapsulating a carousel exhibiting the selected module schedule into a transmission.

1           16.     (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:  
2     determining which of the first and second goodness metrics is an optimum goodness  
3           metric; and  
4     selecting one of the first module schedule and the second module schedule corresponding  
5           to the optimum goodness metric.

1           17.     (Original) The method of claim 16, the optimum goodness metric  
2     corresponding to a lowest goodness metric.

1           18.     (Currently Amended) A method of evaluating module schedules for a  
2     carousel, the method comprising:  
3     providing a plurality of modules, at least one module of the plurality of modules having  
4             at least two instances;  
5     generating a plurality of module schedules for the plurality of modules; and  
6     determining a goodness metric for each module schedule of the plurality of modules  
7             schedules, the goodness metrics for evaluating the plurality of modules schedules.

1           19.     (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising identifying at least  
2     one module schedule of the plurality of module schedules having an optimum goodness  
3     metric.

1           20.     (Original) The method of claim 19, the optimum goodness metric  
2     corresponding to a lowest goodness metric.

1           21.     (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising providing said at  
2     least one module schedule to an insertion device for encapsulation into a transmission.

1           22.     (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising:  
2     a machine accessible medium, the machine accessible medium providing instructions  
3     that, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to  
4             determine an interval difference for an instance of a module on a carousel;  
5             apply a function to the interval difference to determine a result for the instance;  
6                     and  
7             add the result for the instance to a sum, the sum corresponding to a metric for  
8                     evaluating module schedules for the carousel.

1           23.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 22, wherein the  
2     instructions, when executed, further cause the machine to:  
3     determine an interval difference for each remaining instance of the module;  
4     apply the function to the interval difference for each remaining instance to determine a  
5             result for each remaining instance; and  
6     add the result for each remaining instance to the sum.

1           24.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 23, wherein the  
2     instructions, when executed, further cause the machine to:  
3     determine an interval difference for each instance of each remaining module on the  
4           carousel;  
5     apply the function to the interval difference for each instance of each remaining module  
6           to determine a result for each instance of each remaining module; and  
7     add the result for each instance of each remaining module to the sum.

1           25.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 22, wherein the  
2     instructions, when executed, further cause the machine to:  
3     add a penalty term to the sum in response to an actual interval of the instance equaling  
4           one; and  
5     add a penalty term to the sum in response to an actual interval of the instance equaling  
6           negative one.

1           26.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 22, wherein the  
2     instructions, when executed, further cause the machine to determine an absolute value of  
3     the interval difference to determine the result for the instance.

1           27.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 22, wherein the  
2     instructions, when executed, further cause the machine to determine a square of the  
3     interval to determine the result for the instance.



1           28.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 22, wherein the  
2     instructions, when executed, further cause the machine to:  
3     determine a square of the interval difference;  
4     add one to the square of the interval difference to determine a number; and  
5     determine a Logarithmic of the number to determine the result for the instance.

1           29.     (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising:  
2     a machine accessible medium, the machine accessible medium providing instructions  
3     that, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to  
4             set a sum variable to zero;  
5             select a module of a carousel;  
6             select an instance of the selected module;  
7             determine an interval difference of the selected instance;  
8             apply a function to the interval difference of the selected instance to determine a  
9             result for the selected instance; and  
10            add the result for the selected instance to the sum, the sum corresponding to a  
11            metric for evaluating module schedules for the carousel.

1           30.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 29, wherein the  
2     instructions, when executed, further cause the machine to:  
3     select a second instance of the selected module;  
4     determine an interval difference of the second instance;  
5     apply the function to the interval difference of the second instance to determine a result  
6           for the second instance; and  
7     add the result for the second instance to the sum.

1           31.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 29, wherein the  
2     instructions, when executed, further cause the machine to:  
3     select a second module of the carousel;  
4     select an instance of the second module;  
5     determine an interval difference of the selected instance of the second module;  
6     apply the function to the interval difference of the selected instance to determine a result  
7           for the selected instance of the second module; and  
8     add the result for the selected instance of the second module to the sum.

1           32.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 29, wherein the  
2     instructions, when executed, further cause the machine to:  
3     add a penalty term to the sum when an actual interval of the selected instance equals one;  
4           and  
5     add a penalty term to the sum when an actual interval of the selected instance equals  
6           negative one.

1           33.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 29, wherein the  
2     instructions, when executed, further cause the machine to determine an absolute value of  
3     the interval difference to determine the result for the selected instance.

1           34.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 29, wherein the  
2     instructions, when executed, further cause the machine to determine a square of the  
3     interval difference to determine the result for the selected instance.

1           35.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 29, wherein the  
2     instructions, when executed, further cause the machine to:  
3     determine a square of the interval difference;  
4     add one to the square of the interval difference to determine a number; and  
5     determine a Logarithmic of the number to determine the result for the selected instance.

1           36.     (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:  
2     a machine accessible medium, the machine accessible medium providing instructions  
3     that, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to  
4           provide a plurality of modules, at least one module of the plurality of modules  
5                   having at least two instances;  
6           generate a first module schedule for the plurality of modules;  
7           determine a first goodness metric for the first module schedule;  
8           generate at least a second module schedule for the plurality of modules;  
9           determine a second goodness metric for the second module schedule;  
10          select one of the first module schedule and the second module schedule in  
11                  response to the first and second goodness metrics; and  
12          encapsulate a carousel exhibiting the selected module schedule into a  
13                  transmission.

1           37.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein the  
2     instructions, when executed, further cause the machine to:  
3     determine which of the first and second goodness metrics is an optimum goodness  
4           metric; and  
5     select one of the first module schedule and the second module schedule corresponding to  
6           the optimum goodness metric.

1           38.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 36, the optimum goodness  
2     metric corresponding to a lowest goodness metric.

1           39.     (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising:  
2     a machine accessible medium, the machine accessible medium providing instructions  
3     that, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to  
4             provide a plurality of modules, at least one module of the plurality of modules  
5             having at least two instances;  
6             generate a plurality of module schedules for the plurality of modules; and  
7             determine a goodness metric for each module schedule of the plurality of modules  
8             schedules, the goodness metrics for evaluating the plurality of modules  
9             schedules.

1           40.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 39, wherein the  
2     instructions, when executed, further cause the machine to identify at least one module  
3     schedule of the plurality of module schedules having an optimum goodness metric.

1           41.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 40, the optimum goodness  
2     metric corresponding to a lowest goodness metric.

1           42.     (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 40, wherein the  
2     instructions, when executed, further cause the machine to provide said at least one  
3     module schedule to an insertion device for encapsulation into a transmission.